

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 505

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the placement of the Whitaker-Motlow House on the National and Tennessee Registers of Historic Places.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those notable communities that preserve the panoramic history of the great State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2011, the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, upon nomination of the Tennessee Historical Commission of the Department of Environment and Conservation, placed the Whitaker-Motlow House in Mulberry, Tennessee on the National and Tennessee Registers of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans have demonstrated incomparable pride and dedication to preserving Tennessee, Southern, and American history, and the Whitaker-Motlow House now holds a singular position of honor among the historical treasures of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the home, located at 740 Lynchburg Highway in Mulberry, was constructed in 1846; and

WHEREAS, a two-story brick I-house, it integrates elements of Greek Revival with Italianate design and proudly stands on twenty-nine acres of vast agricultural fields and wooded areas, sharing the property with historic stone walls, a smoke house, well, and cistern; and

WHEREAS, replete with architectural ornaments, it showcases a gable roof, with decorative pilasters, flanked by double-hung windows with shutters, and a pediment portico that covers leaf entries on the first and second stories, while the floors of the house consist of heart pine boards, the majority of which are original; and

WHEREAS, the house has undergone many changes throughout its history, including the staircase's redesign by Bob Motlow's daughter in the 1870s, the reconstruction of the

second story in the wake of a destructive tornado that ripped through the area in 1909, and a small addition constructed on the rear of the house in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Carl and Maria Maroney took over as caretakers when they purchased the home in 1987 and began rehabilitating it with strict attention to its preservation, saving and incorporating as many original materials as possible, while also repairing the original floor joists with metal beams to ensure the stability of this significant historical home; and

WHEREAS, to be considered for the prestigious distinction of being placed on the National Register of Historic Places, properties must be associated with events that have made contributions to history; associated with the lives of significant people from the past; embody characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; and yield important historical information; and

WHEREAS, through the preservation of historic properties such as the Whitaker-Motlow House, the citizens of Tennessee can continue to benefit from the panoramic history our State has to offer and learn its many lessons for the future; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Whitaker-Motlow House be recognized and honored for its special place in Tennessee history as we celebrate its recent certification by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior and its inclusion on the National and Tennessee Registers of Historic Places.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.